



# Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center

## DEPARTMENT OF DENTISTRY POLICY AND PROCEDURE

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**SUBJECT: High-Level Disinfectant Solutions:  
Preparation, Use, Monitoring, and  
Disposal**

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Supersedes:  
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### **POLICY:**

It is the policy of Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center to prepare, utilize, monitor and dispose of high level disinfectants, i.e. Cidex OP A, according to accepted standards, manufacturer recommendations and federal regulations.

### **PROCEDURE:**

1. Preparation
  - a. Before using the solution, read the directions for use on the bottle.
  - b. Wearing gown or apron, gloves and protective eyewear, pour Cidex OP A into a clean plastic disinfectant container approved for this purpose. Do not use this container for any other purpose.
  - c. Label the solution container with the expiration date of the solution, 14 days from date of preparation for Cidex OP A
  - d. Keep the solution covered at all times.
  - e. Dispose of the original gallon jug in regular trash after rinsing thoroughly with tap water.
2. Use
  - a. High level disinfection should be used only if sterilization is not feasible.
  - b. Thoroughly clean, rinse and dry all items prior to soaking in disinfectant solution.
  - c. Wearing appropriate protective attire, completely immerse items in the solution.
  - d. Soaking duration should comply with manufacturer recommendations. (Cidex OPA soak time is 12 minutes). A timer should be used to monitor soaking duration.
3. Rinsing, Drying and Storage
  - a. Rinse instruments/devices thoroughly per manufacturer recommendations.
  - b. Dry instruments/devices and store in a manner to minimize recontamination.
4. Monitoring
  - a. Daily or before use, test the disinfectant solution with CIDEX OP A test strips to verify that the appropriate concentration of the disinfectant is present.
  - b. Follow manufacturer instructions
  - c. Record on Disinfection Log

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EFFECTIVE DATE: 02/2006

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES • DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

APPROVED BY: Hospital Infection Committee

5. Disposal

- a. The solution should be disposed of
  - Upon expiration, 14 days after pouring from original container for Cidex OP A
  - When there is visible debris in the container
  - When the test strip indicates that the solution no longer has high level disinfectant activity.
- b. Dispose of expired disinfectant solution according to federal, state and local regulations and manufacturer instructions, generally by pouring it down the drain with large quantities of water.
- c. Wear gown or apron, gloves and protective eye wear to avoid splash injury.
- d. Wash solution container with clear water inside and outside prior to adding solution.

6. Quality Control of the Cidex OP A Test Strips

- a. Testing of positive and negative controls will be performed on each newly opened test strip bottle of Cidex OP A Solution test strips and when a new bottle of Cidex OP A Solution is opened.
- b. Prepare the control solutions to perform the Quality Control (QC) test:
  - Verify the expiration date on the Cidex OP A solution
  - Full strength Cidex OP A Solution may be used as the positive control
  - Prepare a negative control by diluting 1 part full strength Cidex OP A Solution with 1 part water
  - Label each solution
- c. Dip 3 test strips into each of the prepared solutions one at a time for 1 full second.
- d. Check for the following test results:
  - Positive control solution strips should appear completely purple
  - Negative control solution strips should either remain blue or exhibit an incomplete change to purple.
  - If the results of the QC test indicate that the test strip is not functioning properly, discard the remaining strips. Open new bottle and re-do QC testing of the strips.

REFERENCES:

Advanced Sterilization Products (2003). HOW TO USE CIDEX OP A SOLUTION (poster 2003)